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"THE TALL HILL MASSACRE"

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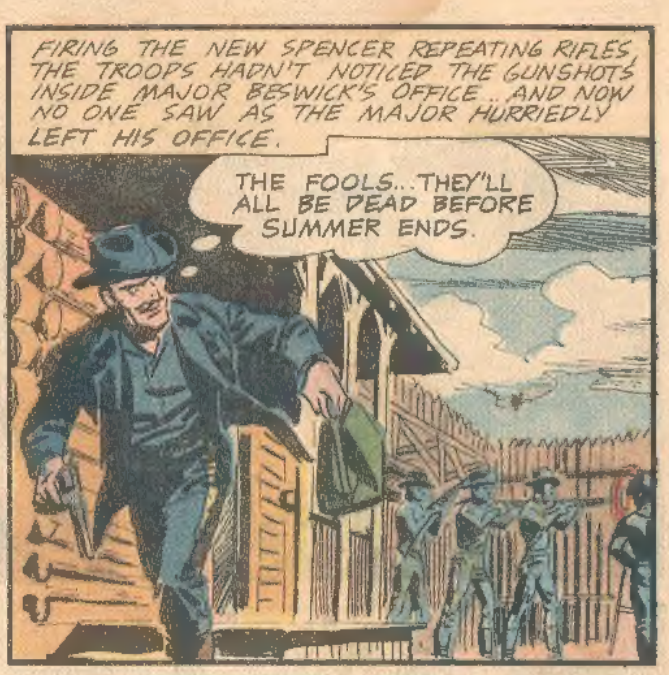
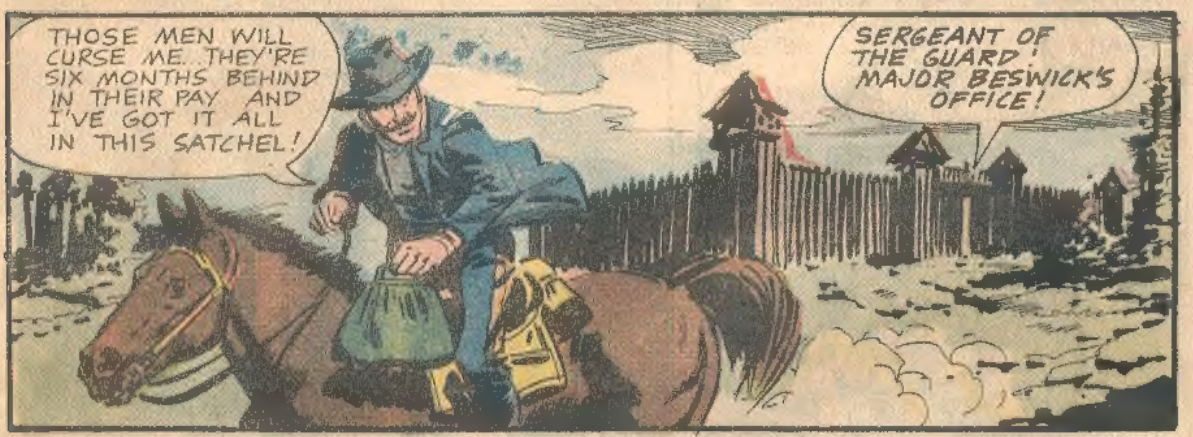
THE FIRST BULLET MISSED AND THE ARMY SCOUT LEAPED BEHIND THE HEAVY OAKEN DOOR AS THE SECOND SLUG SLAMMED PAST!
...BETWEEN ME AND A VAST EMPIRE! YOU MUST DIE!
A .45 SLUG HIT WITH FANTASTIC IMPACT AND MAJOR BESWICK'S BULLET HAMMERED THE HARDWOOD DOOR INTO THE CHEYENNE KID'S TEMPLE WITH STUNNING FORCE!
THUD
MAJOR BESWICK LOST NO TIME. HE PACKED UP $34,000 IN BILLS AND GOLD FROM THE SAFE, PUT ON HIS HAT AND OVERCOAT, AND LINGERED WITH COCKED .45 OVER THE UNMOVING BODIES OF HIS TWO VICTIMS! SHOULD HE FIRE ONCE MORE INTO EACH TO MAKE SURE THEY
THEY'RE BOTH DEAD ANYHOW! I'LL NEED ALL THE AMMUNITION I'VE GOT OUT THERE..
SPOTTED WOLF WILL BE AT SPLIT ROCK. I DON'T WANT TO KEEP HIM WAITING
2

THIS WAS SPOTTED WOLF.. MARKED BY BIRTH AND DESTINY TO BE A FIGURE OF EVIL ON THE WIND-SWEPT PRAIRIES! AT HIS BACK THERE WOULD BE A THOUSAND BRAVES .NEEDING ONLY A WEAPON AND A LEADER!

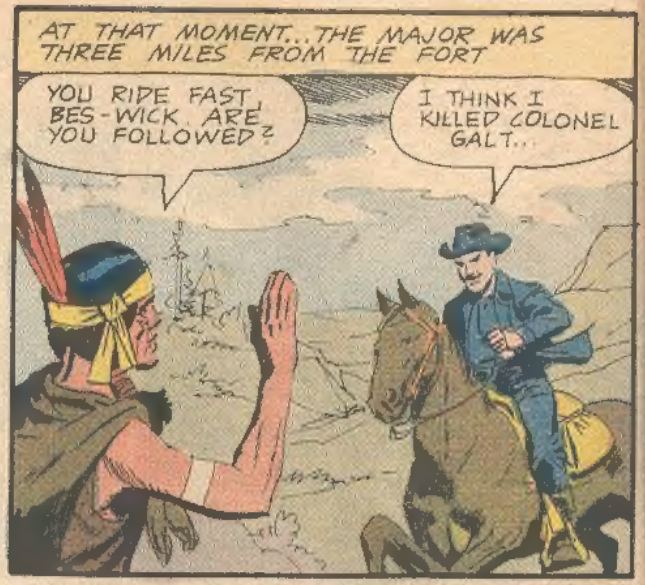

FIRING THE NEW SPENCER REPEATING RIFLES, THE TROOPS HADN'T NOTICED THE GUNSHOTS INSIDE MAJOR BESWICK'S OFFICE.. AND NOW NO ONE SAW AS THE MAJOR HURRIEDLY LEFT HIS OFFICE.
THE FOOLS...THEY'LL ALL BE DEAD BEFORE SUMMER ENDS.

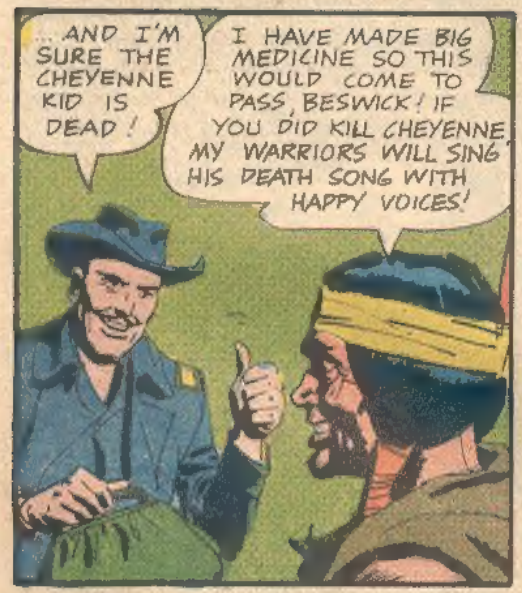

THOSE MEN WILL CURSE ME..THEY'RE SIX MONTHS BEHIND IN THEIR PAY AND I'VE GOT IT ALL IN THIS SATCHEL!
SERGEANT OF THE GUARD! MAJOR BESWICK'S OFFICE!

COLONEL, I'VE SENT FOR THE POST SURGEON ...JUST BE STILL, DON'T TALK!
MAJOR BESWICK... HE'S A THIEF! SEND A PATROL AFTER HIM...HE MUST BE BROUGHT BACK FOR TRIAL!

THE CHEYENNE KID ISN'T BLEEDING HE'S GOT A BAD BRUISE ON HIS HEAD BUT HE..
BESWICK DID IT! GET BESWICK!

ARE YOU ACCUSING MAJOR BESWICK...
HE SHOT COLONEL GALT AND FIRED AT ME! UNLESS I'M VERY MISTAKEN, YOU'LL FIND OUT THE SAFE HAS BEEN CLEANED OUT!


AT THAT MOMENT...THE MAJOR WAS THREE MILES FROM THE FORT
YOU RIDE FAST, BES-WICK. ARE YOU FOLLOWED?
I THINK I KILLED COLONEL GALT...


...AND I'M SURE THE CHEYENNE KID IS DEAD!
I HAVE MADE BIG MEDICINE SO THIS WOULD COME TO PASS, BESWICK! IF YOU DID KILL CHEYENNE, MY WARRIORS WILL SING HIS DEATH SONG WITH HAPPY VOICES!

ARE THESE ALL YOU RECRUITED, SPOTTED WOLF?
HUNDREDS MORE WILL JOIN US... WHEN YOU GIVE US THE RIFLES YOU PROMISED!

REPEATING RIFLES, BETTER THAN THE YELLOW-LEG HORSE SOLDIERS HAVE ARE COMING IN WAGONS ACROSS THE RED RIVER INTO THE TALL HILLS!

THERE ARE EVEN GATLING GUNS. WHICH FIRES BULLETS FASTER THAN RAIN FALLS IN A SUMMER STORM!
WE WILL TRULY RULE THE PRAIRIE, BES-WICK!

THERE WERE 20 MEN IN THE PLATOON LED BY LT. ACKROYD GUIDED BY THE CHEYENNE KID.
MAJOR BESWICK WAS EXONERATED BY A GENERAL COURTMARTIAL IN WASHINGTON AND THEN HE WAS SENT OUT HERE, MORE OR LESS IN DISGRACE!
HIS HOPES FOR ADVANCEMENT WERE ENDED. HE WAS DISGRACED!
I'VE HEARD HE GAMBLED WITH A CATTLE BUYER IN DENVER! LOST HEAVILY!

NOW.. BECAUSE OF HIS SELFISH GREED.. HE'LL BRING AN INDIAN WAR TO THE TERRITORY!

THERE ARE MORE TRACKS, CHEYENNE!
HE JOINED UP WITH A BUNCH OF OGLALA SIOUX, LIEUTENANT! COME ON!

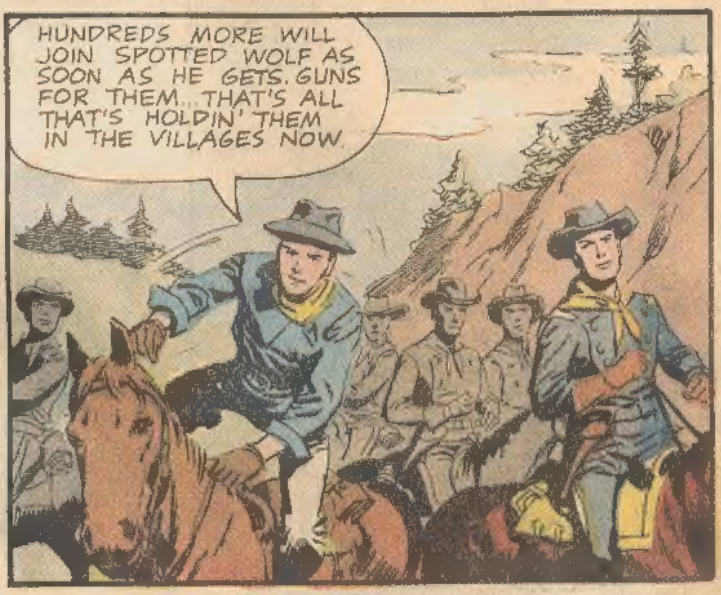
WATCH OUT FOR...

...TRAAAAAHHH!
PULL UP! PULL UP!

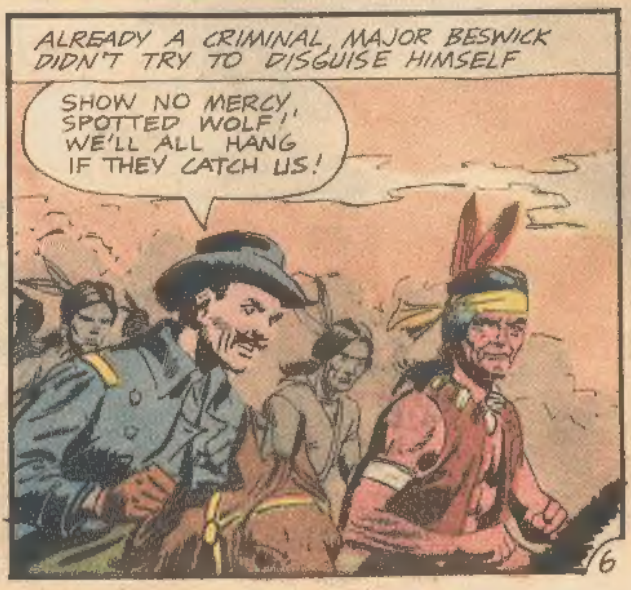
THERE, HE GOES! AFTER HIM!
NO! YUH'LL RUN INTO AN AMBUSH!

THEY'LL GET AWAY!
MAYBE SO, LIEUTENANT ...THEN AGAIN, MAYBE NOT.

SPOTTED WOLF IS LEADIN' A BUNCH OF YOUNG WARRIORS...THEY DON'T WANT PEACE ON THE RESERVATION... THEY WANT TO DRIVE US BACK EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI


HUNDREDS MORE WILL JOIN SPOTTED WOLF AS SOON AS HE GETS GUNS FOR THEM...THAT'S ALL THAT'S HOLDIN' THEM IN THE VILLAGES NOW.

CAPTAIN O'BOYLE IS BRINGING A CONSIGNMENT OF WEAPONS TO FORT OGLALA RIGHT NOW. MAJOR BESWICK KNOWS ABOUT IT.. I'LL BET HE TELLS THE SIOUX WARCHIEF!


ALREADY A CRIMINAL, MAJOR BESWICK DIDN'T TRY TO DISGUISE HIMSELF
SHOW NO MERCY, SPOTTED WOLF! WE'LL ALL HANG IF THEY CATCH US!

THIS WAS CAPT O'BOYLE. HIS SCOUTS REPORTED NO INJUN SIGN... FORT OGLALA WAS A FEW HOURS AWAY HE WAS BEGINNING TO RELAX...
GIVE 'EM A TOUCH OF THE WHIP, LADS! WE'LL EAT HOT FOOD IN THE FORT TONIGHT!
A MILE AWAY, SPOTTED WOLF SAW THE ROLLING WAGONS AND...
THEY COME, BES-WICK, JUST AS YOU SAID! WE WILL BE HIDDEN DOWN IN THE GRASS OF THE MEADOW!
HIDDEN IN THE TALL GRASS, THE INDIANS WERE SILENT... WAITING WITH THE CREAK OF LEATHER HARNESS IN THEIR EARS AND THE SQUEAL OF THE HEAVILY LADEN WHEELS!
FASTER! IT'S ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE!
SHURE, THERE'LL BE NO RED RASCALS THIS CLOSE TA THE FORT! YEEEAAAHH!
THEY SPRANG FROM THE GROUND LIKE DEADLY WEEDS ... THEIR BULLETS SMASHED INTO THE STARTLED TROOPS.. AND EVEN CAPT. O'BOYLE LOST HIS CHANCE TO RALLY THE MEN WHEN MAJOR BESWICK APPEARED!
O'BOYLE! IT'S ME ...MAJOR BESWICK! HOLD YOUR FIRE!
MAJOR! WHAT'S GOIN' ON?
END PART I

THE DEPUTY SHERIFF'S CORNER

Come on, you Western fans, and get ready for something new! We have asked an Old Timer to give us a hand. He still has his Deputy Sheriff's badge, can ride a horse, shoot his rifle, or six-gun, trail a man, and he knows his West. He will write a special column for this publication. It will consist of answers to questions you send him about the Old West. Make it brief and to the point. There will be no personal replies, but from your letters will be chosen one to be answered in this column in every issue of this publication.

Dear Deputy Sheriff:

My friend and I like very much all the western pictures we can see. We especially enjoy those that have a lot of fighting in them. Now there is something we would like to have you answer for us.

We notice that when they show fighting between the Indians and the soldiers, even though the Indians may win a fight, they eventually end up as the losers. I asked my teacher if ever the Indians won a war against this country. He said he didn't know. Maybe you know? If so, tell us.

Your friend,
Burt J.

Dear Burt J:

The answer to your question is that, as far as I can find, it did happen once. Red Cloud, Oglala Sioux Chief, stands alone in the history of the American West as the chief who won a war with the United States! So let us look at the facts.

"A magnificent specimen of physical manhood, as full of action as a tiget." So Mahipiua Luta ("Red Cloud," from a meteor which turned the sky scarlet at the time of his birth) was described by the famed Indian fighter, Gen. George Crook, as the Oglala Sioux Chief, then 44, led Indian opposition to Government proposals to construct forts along the Boseman Trail in 1865. No white encorachment was more bitterly resented by the Teton, or Western Sioux, and Cheyennes than this attempt to fortify the wild road across the western part of the continent, through Wyoming to the newly discovered gold fields of Montana. For the Boseman Trail cut across the best remaining buffalo grounds.

Red Cloud was grimly determined to keep the Army out of the Indian hunting grounds. With a party of Sioux and Cheyennes, he intercepted the first small detachment of troops sent out to begin construction along the Boseman Trail in the summer of 1865 and kept them prisoner for more than two weeks. When commissioners were sent to treat with the Sioux that fall, Red Cloud refused to allow transactions to start and himself boycotted the council. Later he attended a meeting.

But even while discussions were taking place, a strong force of troops had arrived and begun occupation of Wyoming's Powder River country. Upon learning of this, the furious Red Cloud seized his rifle and shouted a defiant message, then stalked out of the meeting with his followers.

The Army proceeded to carry out the orders to fortify the trail. For two years fighting continued, known as "Red Cloud's War." The largest post on the trail, Fort Phil Kearny, was kept under relentless siege. And not even a load of hay could be brought in from the prairies except under strongly armed guard. Wehn Captain William J. Fetterman with eighty men, attempted to rescue a woodcutting party under attack near the fort in December 1866, Red Cloud's warriors lured them into ambush and killed every one.

Although there were some Army victories, Red Cloud and his followers resisted so effectively that again the Government attempted to negotiate. His ultimatum was complete abandonment of all posts and of all further attempt to open the Montana road. He refused to sign or even to be present at a meeting until the garrisons had actually been withdrawn and he had seen the hated forts burn to the ground.

So from this you can see he had won a war against the United States. I was alive when he died, but don't try to figure out my age.

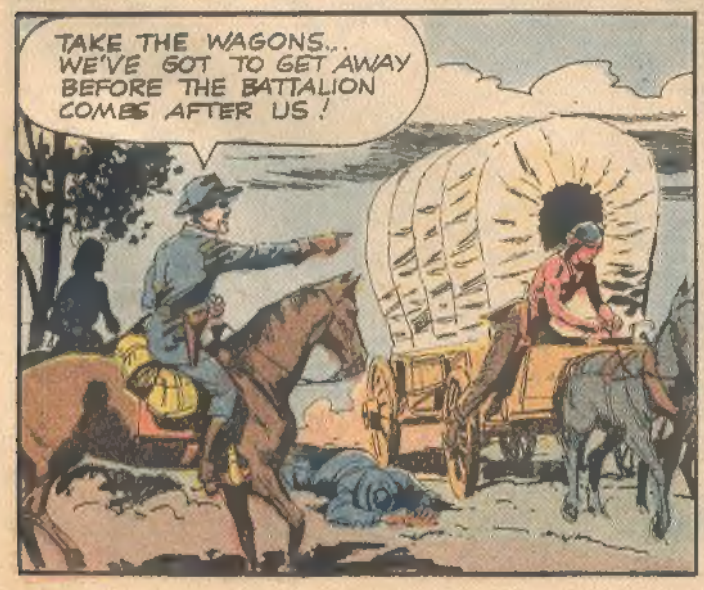
The Deputy Sheriff

If you want to write a letter to the Deputy Sheriff, address it

The Deputy Sheriff
% Charlton Comics
Charlton Bldg.,
Derby Conn. 06418

CHEYENNE KID

THE TALL HILL MASSACRE

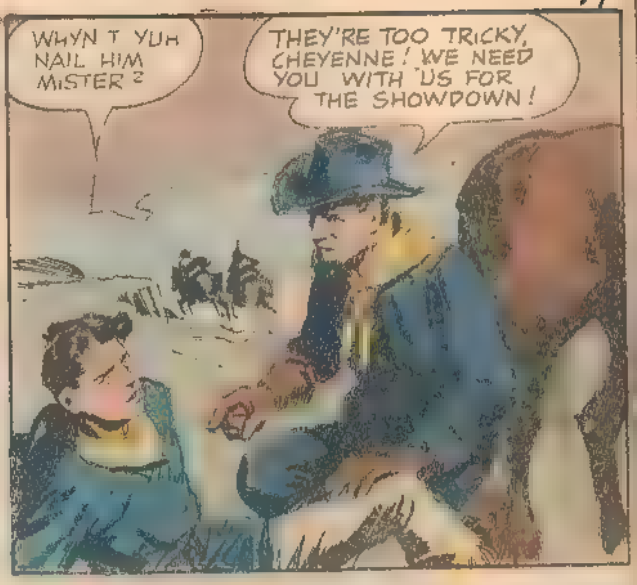


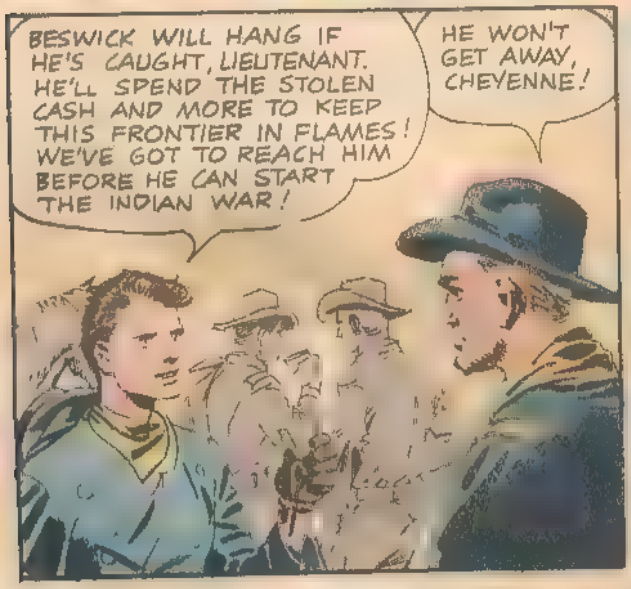
HUUU! BES-WICK.. ACCOMPANY THE WAGONS... WE WILL WAIT FOR THE YELLOWLEGS WHO WILL FOLLOW US!
THIS WAS A FAVORITE TRICK TACTIC OF THE OGLALA SIOUX! BACKTRACK .. WATCHING THE TRAIL A MILE BACK AND SEEING THE RISING DUST
FRESH TRAIL AND WE...
ORDER 'EM TO STOP!
FRIGHTENED, CHEYENNE?
I DON'T AIM TUH HAVE A SIOUX WEARIN' MY SCALP, SOLDIER! THAT PLACE AHEAD IS A NATURAL SPOT FOR BUSHWHACKERS!
WHAT IF THERE IS A SIOUX OUT THERE? IT'S A CHANCE WE'VE GOT TO...
I CAN SEE MORE'N ONE LIEUTENANT! WATCH THIS!
THE SHOW OFF'S SAVIN' LEAD!
MISSED, MI.. NOPE! I GOT 'IM!

YA WANTED TO SEE INJUNS? GET A GOOD LOOK!
BLAM BLAM BAM
MOVE ON! MOVE ON!
THAT SONOVAGUN MUST BE BULLETPROOF!
IN A NARROW ... A ... BE ... HALTED THE TRAIN AND ORDERED TWO WARRIORS TO LIFT A GATLING GUN OUT OF THE CASE
THE ... COME ...

THE CHEYENNE RETREATED AS THEY TURNED AT THE CANYON AND THE LAST RIDER IN THE RATLING ALMOST TOOK CHEYENNE'S HEAD OFF!
CHEYENNE THIS TIME THERE WILL BE NO MISTAKE
SPLIT WE DON'T HAVE A CHANCE WITH THAT RATLING GUN
AAAH!!
RATATATATATAT
GOT TO CAPTURE BESWICK WITHOUT HIM, SPOTTED WOLF WILL BE EASY TO HANDLE!
CHEYENNE WAR CHIEF SLOW ELK GET SCALP!
BLAST YOU, SPOTTED WOLF, YOU RAN OUT ON ME
GOT TO NAIL BESWICK! HE'S OOOOFF!
11

WHOOAA!


WHYN T YUH NAIL HIM MISTER ?
THEY'RE TOO TRICKY, CHEYENNE! WE NEED YOU WITH US FOR THE SHOWDOWN!


BESWICK WILL HANG IF HE'S CAUGHT, LIEUTENANT. HE'LL SPEND THE STOLEN CASH AND MORE TO KEEP THIS FRONTIER IN FLAMES! WE'VE GOT TO REACH HIM BEFORE HE CAN START THE INDIAN WAR!
HE WON'T GET AWAY, CHEYENNE!

WE'LL TRACK HIM DOWN ... HE'S AS GOOD AS IN AN ARMY PRISON NOW!

THEY MAY NOT BE EASY TO TRAIL, LIEUTENANT... IT'S GONNA RAIN SKUNKS 'AN RATTLESNAKES IN A MINUTE!
RUMBLE

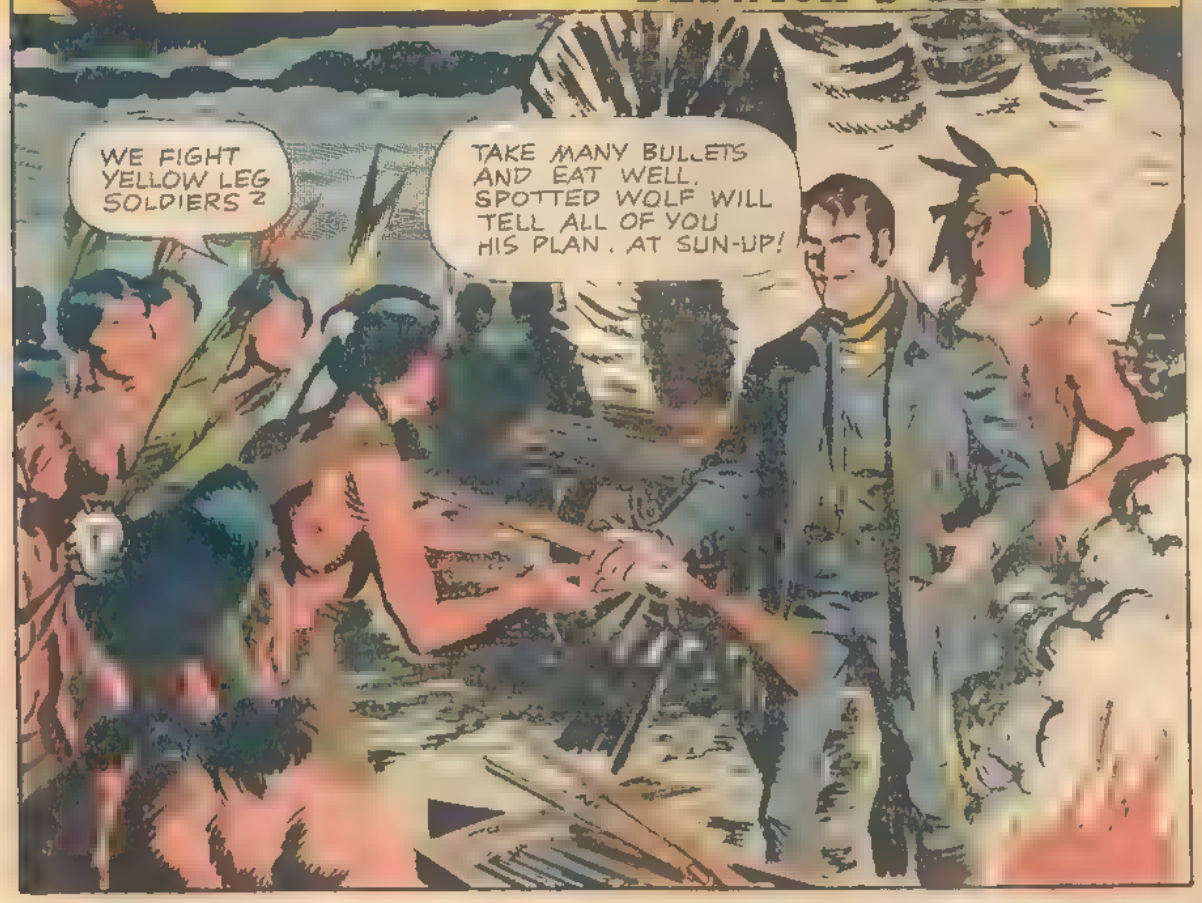
SEE ?
YEAH

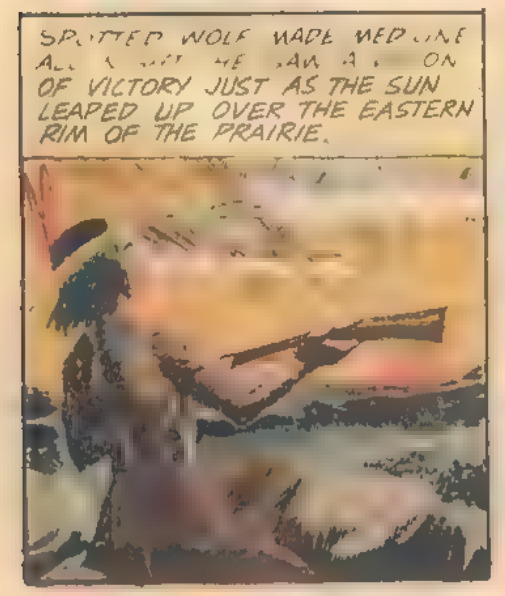
THERE IS HIDDEN VALLEY, BES-WICK! ACROSS WILD
HERE BE NO TRACK ME LEFT MY TRAIL. EVEN THE CHEYENNE TRACKER CANNOT FIND US HERE.
SPOTTED WOLF!
TO EACH CHIEF MORE FOR EACH WARRIOR HE SENDS US! WE WILL BUY BLANKETS AND RIFLES AND MANY GIFTS!
THE COURIERS RODE HARD AND FAST. THROUGH THE NIGHT, ACROSS FAR PLACES!
THE WARRIORS WANTED TO FIGHT THE CAVALRY. ONLY THE CHIEFS HAD HELD THEM BACK. NOW, AT THE COUNCIL, TO QUIET THEIR CONSCIENCES, THE WARRIORS DEALED ON THE RED WHITE AND BLUE PAINT TO GO TO WAR.
END PART II
13

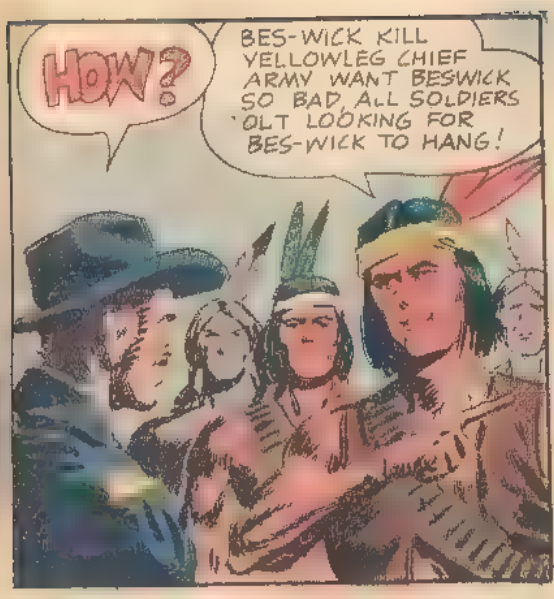
CHEYENNE KID

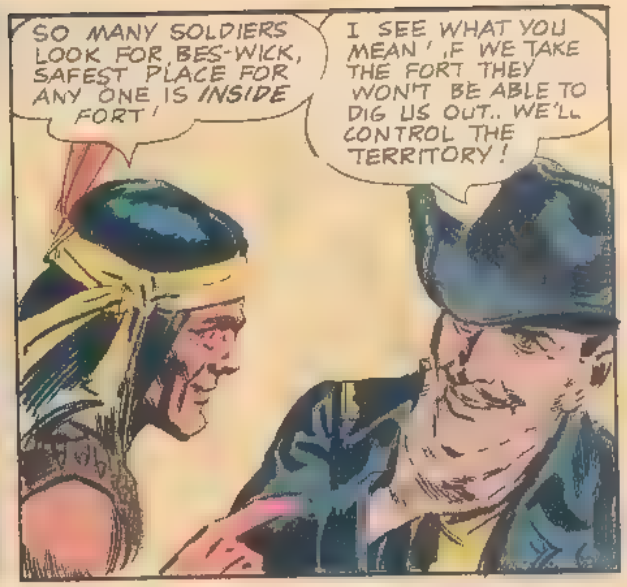
MORE THAN THIRTY CHIEFS [illegible] GOTTEN WORD. AND MOST OF THEM SENT THEIR TROUBLEMAKERS TO SPOTTED WOLF! IN RETURN, THEY GOT MAJOR BESWICK'S STOLEN GOLD. AND [illegible] THE REPEATING RIFLES PROMISED BY SPOTTED WOLF'S COURIERS!

BESWICK'S BATTLE

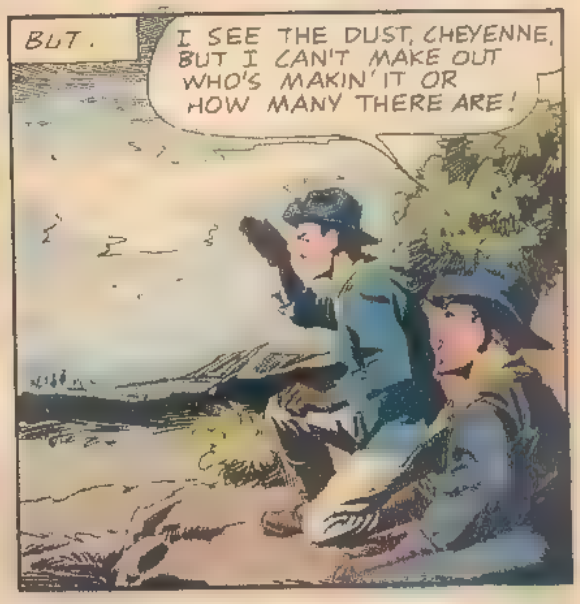




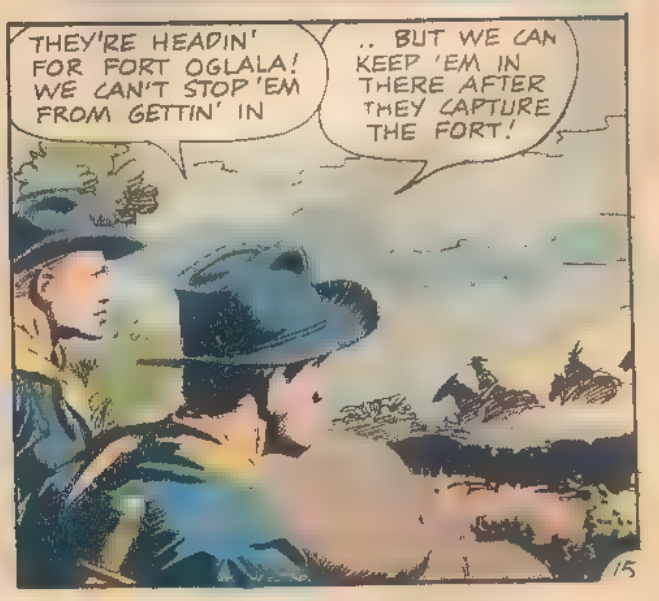

HOW?
BES-WICK KILL YELLOWLEG CHIEF ARMY WANT BESWICK SO BAD, ALL SOLDIERS 'OLT LOOKING FOR BES-WICK TO HANG!


SO MANY SOLDIERS LOOK FOR BES-WICK, SAFEST PLACE FOR ANY ONE IS INSIDE FORT!
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN! IF WE TAKE THE FORT THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO DIG US OUT.. WE'LL CONTROL THE TERRITORY!

AT A SCREAMED ORDER FROM SPOTTED WOLF, THE WARRIORS LEAPED ASTRIDE THEIR WAR PONIES... AND THEN BESWICK RODE OUT WITH THEM AT HIS BACK!
THE FOOLS .NOW THEY'LL PAY FOR THEIR TREATMENT OF ME!


BUT.
I SEE THE DUST, CHEYENNE, BUT I CAN'T MAKE OUT WHO'S MAKIN' IT OR HOW MANY THERE ARE!

IT'S BESWICK, CHEYENNE! I CAN PICK HIM OFF FROM
LET THEM GO, LIEUTENANT!


THEY'RE HEADIN' FOR FORT OGLALA! WE CAN'T STOP 'EM FROM GETTIN' IN
.. BUT WE CAN KEEP 'EM IN THERE AFTER THEY CAPTURE THE FORT!

I CAN BEAT 'EM TO THE FORT, LIEUTENANT. I'LL TELL THE SURGEON TO GET THE ... OUT THE WEST GATE ... SPOTTED WOLF TAKE IT ... WITHOUT A FIGHT

A SPLIT SECOND LATER, THE CHEYENNE KID IS ON THE WAY

OVER YOU FROM ... DON'T BREAK A LEG ... WE'LL BEAT 'EM THERE!

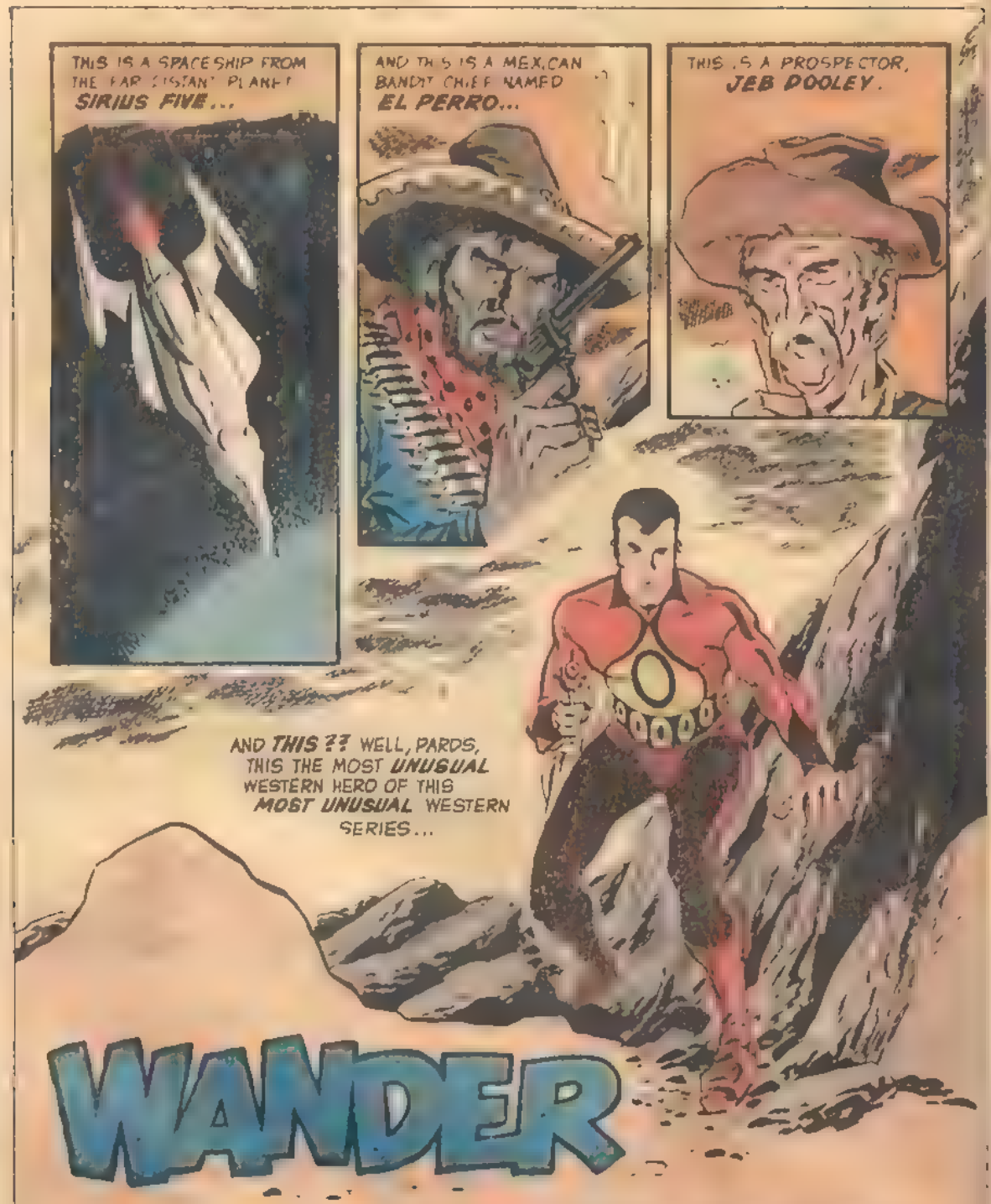
CHEYENNE ... WHERE ARE ... THEY?
NEVER MIND ... SAVE YOUR ... BUNT THE HORSE

A FEW QUICK WORDS AND...
THE COLONEL CAN BE MOVED ... GET HIM LOADED IN THE ... YOUR PLAN IS A ... CHEYENNE!

IT MAY BE MORE DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH SPOTTED WOLF ... BUT I FEEL ... BECAUSE THEY ARE ... HERE THIS FORT I ... DEFENDED MYSELF AND
THEY WON'T ... HAVE IT ALL ... TO THEMSELVES ... I'D ... BETTER ... LEAVE

THE OGLALA SIOUX WERE SCREAMING SHRILL DEFIANCE AS THEY RACED TOWARD THE FORT! THEIR REPEATING RIFLES ROARED AND THEY KICKED THEIR LEAN WAR PONIES TO GREATER SPEED AS THEY SAW THE MAIN GATES OF THE FORT YAWNING OPEN..
THEY CAN'T STOP US NOW, SPOTTED WOLF!
WE MUST WIPE THE GARRISON OUT!
WAIT! THERE IS NO ONE HERE! SAVE YOUR BULLETS!
THEY ABANDONED IT!
THIS WILL BE OUR HEADQUARTERS, SPOTTED WOLF! OUR RECRUITS CAN COME HERE... WE CAN TRAIN THEM!
YOUR PLAN IS GOOD, BES-WICK I WILL FOLLOW IT AS LONG AS YOUR STOLEN GOLD LASTS!
THIS DESK SHOULD'VE BEEN MINE I SHOULD'VE BEEN PROMOTED SIX MONTHS AGO! NOW. I COMMAND AT LAST!
MOVE AN' YUH DIE MAJOR BESWICK!
YOU KNOW WHERE THE PRISON CELLS ARE. GO TO THEM!
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?

THE CELLS WERE BENEATH THE OFFICE BESWICK'S SHOUTS COULDN'T BE HEARD DOWN THERE!
THE COLONEL WILL HEAR YOUR CASE AFTER I GET RID OF SPOTTED WOLF
THAT WON'T BE EASY, CHEYENNE.
SORRY, BUDDY I NEED THIS!
THE SIOUX HAD LOCKED THE GATES SO WHEN THE GATLING GUN SUDDENLY STUTTERED AND BULLETS SCREAMED AROUND THE FOLLOWERS OF SPOTTED WOLF, SUDDEN PANIC PARALYZED THEM.
THE CHEYENNE DEVIL.. HE IS NOT HUMAN!
ATTACK HIM... HE IS ONLY ONE MAN!
RATATATAT
RATATA
WE WILL ALL DIE THERE WILL BE A DEATH SONG IN THE VILLAGE
BUT THEY WILL NOT SING MY DEATH SONG! I SURRENDER CHEYENNE!
I AM BETRAYED BY THE COWARDICE OF MY PEOPLE!
A WEEK LATER, WITH NORMAL ORDER RESTORED IN THE FORT THE CHEYENNE KID WATCHED THE TWO MOST IMPORTANT PRISONERS BEING TAKEN OUT!
YOU WERE LUCKY, RENEGADE!
YOU WERE STUPID, TRAITOR!
END



WE CAN HEAR THE PURISTS HOWLING NOW!

"SPACESHIPS IN A WESTERN MAG ? RIDICULOUS ! ABSURD! JUST PLAIN DUMB ! " WELL, COULD BE... BUT WHY NOT STICK AROUND FOR THE NEXT EIGHT PAGES ? YOU MAY FIND YOURSELF *LIKING* OUR ABSURD, RIDICULOUS AND JUST PLAIN DUMB STORY...

FROM THE CHARLTON CORRAL (WHICH IS PURELY FULL OF LOCO WEED)

DICK GIORDANO • **SERGIUS O'SHAUGNESSY** • **JIM APARO**

EDITOR SCRIPTER ARTIST

A-1179

TIME: 1879! PLACE: THE TEXAS-MEXICO BORDER!
WHY YOU DON' COME OUT, AMIGO? GEEV US YOUR GUN, YOUR MULE AN' ALL YOUR GOLD? WE DON'T HORT YOU THEN!
WE ONLY SHOOT YOU A LEETLE! HEE HEE!
I AIN'T GOT NO GOLD, YUH SIDEWINDERS! AND IF'N I DID I'D SOONER DIE THAN GIVE IT TO YOU!
KOW
P-WING
A VERY STOBORN MAN! TOO BAD!
HEY AMIGOS, WHAT'S THAT IN THE SKY?
LES' DON' LOOK IN THE SKY TILL WE FEENESH OUR BUSINESS ON THE GROUND!
BUT THE STRANGE, AIRBORNE OBJECT CAN'T BE IGNORED! CLOSER AND CLOSER IT COMES BRIGHTER AND BRIGHTER...
CARAMBA!
IT HORTS MY EYES!
MADRE MIA! IT MOST BE AN ANGEL.
GONG OVER THE HEEL...
I WEEL NEVER SHOOT NOBODY AGAIN
A SECOND LATER, A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION ROCKS THE EARTH...
KA-WHOOM
2

WAS A EARTHQUAKE?
NO, WAS LIGHTNING!
BUT EL PERRO, THE SUN EES SHINING! HOW COULD IT BE LIGHTNING?
I'M THE BOSS, AND I SAY WAS LIGHTNING! YOU DEESAGREE, PEEG?
OF.. OF COURSE NOT, PERRO!
GOOD! NOW, WE FEENESH WHAT WE START!
HEY GRINGO! WE SORRY WE FORGOT ABOUT YOU! BUT DON' WORRY, WE STEEL GOIN' KEEL YOU!
PLUMB OUTTA AMMO! RECKON MY TRAIL'S 'BOUT ENDED! IT'D TAKE A GOL-D.ING MIRACLE TO KEEP THEM JASPERS AWAY
..WAL, I AIN'T GONNA GO SITTIN' DOWN!
COME AHEAD, YA SNEAKIN' SONS OF SIDEWINDERS, I'M A-WAITIN' FER YA!
GOT ANY LAST WORDS?
SHORE AVE YOU ARE THE MANGIEST UGLIEST, ROTTENEST
SOCH EENSOLTS! I'M AT MY MOTHER EES NOT HERE TO LEESTEN TO THEES FILTHY WORD
ADIOS!!

BUT THEN...
HEES GON ESS MELT!!
HUH?
BE GONE, KNAVES, AFORE I LAY WASTE TO YE! MORE THAN YOUR PUNY WEAPONS I'LL TURN TO BUTTER IF YOU DARE DISOBEY!
ESS A STRANGE LOOKING HOMBRE, NO?
SI! HE TALKS FONNY, TOO!
I DON CARE HOW HE TALKS! HE RUIN MY BES' GON! FOR THAT, HE WEEL PAY! GO HEET HEEM, AMIGOS!
AFTER YOU, EL PERRO!
SHOW US HOW YOU WANT HEEM HEET, CHIEF!
BAH! SOCH COWARDS I HAVE WORKING FOR ME! I WEEL TEAR HEEM LIMB FROM LIMB ALL BY MYSELF. I THEENK!
TAKE THEES SENOR STEENKER!
A GOODLY BLOW, KNAVE!

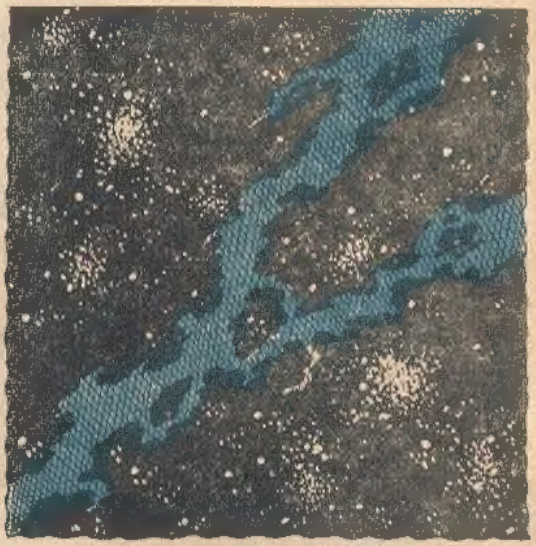
AN' THEES!
ENOUGH DALLIANCE! 'TIS MY TURN TO STRIKE!
HOW LIKE YE THE TASTE OF MY KNUCKLES?
OOOOOW
WHOP
I THEENK I JUS' REMEMBER SOMETHEENG I GOT TO DO!
ME TOO! NICE MEETING YOU..
YOU'LL GO NOWHERE TILL I SAY YOU MAY!
CARAMBA! ESS A HUMAN LEAP FROG!
DON' STAN' THERE ADMIRING HEEM.. RON!!
BY MY SWORD, NEVER HAVE I HEARD SUCH HOLLOWNESS!
BONK
JIMINY JEHOSOPHAT, THAT WAS THE PURTIEST PIECE OF FIGHTIN' I EVER DID SEE!
A TRIFLE... A MERE NOTHING!

WHAR IN THUNDERATION DID YA LEARN TO HANDLE YER FISTS LIKE THAT?
OH SIRIUS FIVE!
OH WHAD YA SAY?
SIRIUS FIVE! IT'S A SMALL PLANET NEAR 6,000 LIGHT YEARS YON!
IF'N THAT JIST HALF AS FAR AS I FIGGER...
IT'S SO DANG FAR THAT YOU AIN'T HUMAN!
INDEED I AM NOT! MY SPACE SHIP CRASHED JUST OVER THE HILL! I AM SYRIAN!
THAT'S OKAY BY ME, STRANGER... I AIN'T ONE TO HOLD A MAN'S NATIONALITY AGAINST 'IM! I SHORE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THAT WHATCHAMACALLIT SHIP, THOUGH!
SO BE IT! ...ME.
I WILL, IF'N YA JIST SLOW DOWN A MITE!
AND SO, A MINUTE LATER.
NOR HAS ANY OTHER EARTHLING I'LL WARRANT IT'S ONE OF OUR NEWEST MODELS - A FINE OVERDRIVE AND SPLENDID DUEL ROCKETS THAS. ALL ROUND AGAIN!
GOL-DING! THAT SHORE IS PURTY! I AIN'T NEVER SEEN NOTHIN' LIKE IT!
6

"I WAS ROUNDING YOUR SUN WHEN THE VARLOTS FELL UPON ME! ERE I COULD ACT, THEY DAMAGED MY STERN POWER PLANT WITH THEIR VILLAINOUS NUCLEAR BLASTERS!

WITHIN A HEARTBEAT, I HAD MY VENGEANCE! I CAUGHT THEM IN MY SIGHTS AND FIRED! MY RAY HIT THEM MIDSHIPS...

AND THEY PERISHED!



BUT I COULD NOT REPAIR THE HARM THEY HAD DONE, AND SO I WAS FORCED TO SEEK OUT THE NEAREST PLANET WHICH COULD SUSTAIN MY FORM OF LIFE... THIS PLANET!

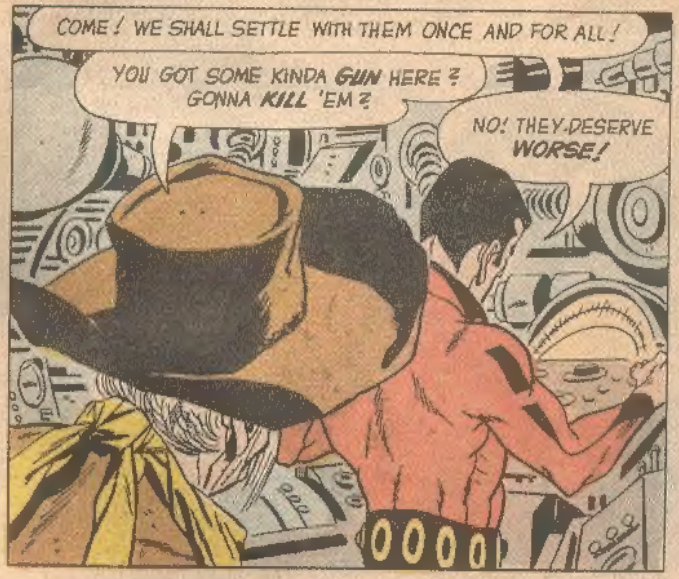
I HAD BARELY ENOUGH POWER LEFT TO CRASH MY SHIP HERE! WHEN I EMERGED FROM IT'S WRECKED HULK, I HEARD THE SOUND OF YOUR PRIMITIVE FIREARMS! IT WAS THEN I CAME TO YOUR AID!"

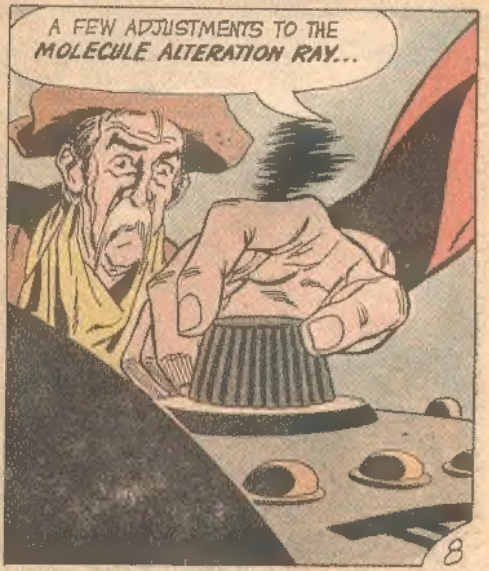
THAT IS SOME TALE, STRANGER! AN' I WOULDN'T B'LIEVE A WORD, 'CEPT I SEE THIS HERE CONTRAPTION! BY THE WAY, WHAT'S YORE HANDLE?
MY... HANDLE?? OH, MAYCHANCE YOU MEAN MY NAME! I AM CALLED WWNDWAR! THE GALACTIC MERCHANT!

IF'N YOU DON'T MIND, I'LL JUST CALL YA WANDER! AN' WHAT ELSE DID YOU SAY..? SOME KINDA MERCHANT?
AYE! I TAKE MY WARES FROM WORLD TO WORLD, SELLING THEM!
SHHH, AMIGOS... THERE THEY ARE!

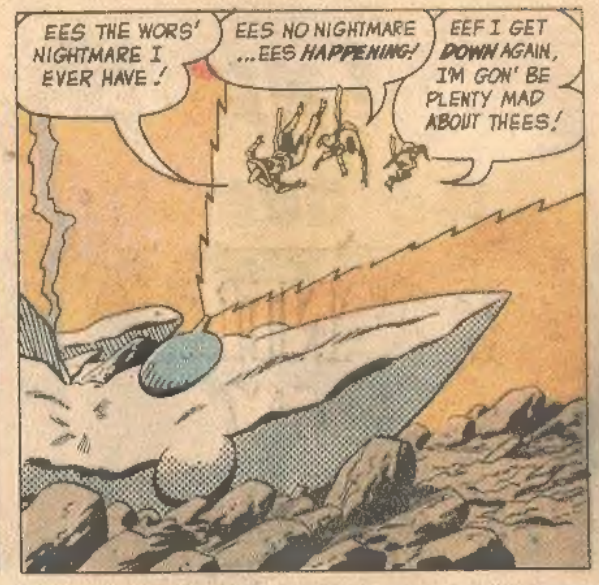
OH, A TRAVELIN' SALESMAN, HEY? ONE MORE QUESTION... WHY YOU TALK SO ODD LIKE?
MY SPEECH IS NOT PROPER? I SUPPOSE NOT... IT HAS BEEN FIVE HUNDRED YEARS SINCE ONE OF MY PEOPLE LAST STOPPED HERE!
DON' MEES THEM, AMIGOS!
DON' WORRY, CHIEF! THEY GON' BE SORRY THEY GEEV US TROUBLE!

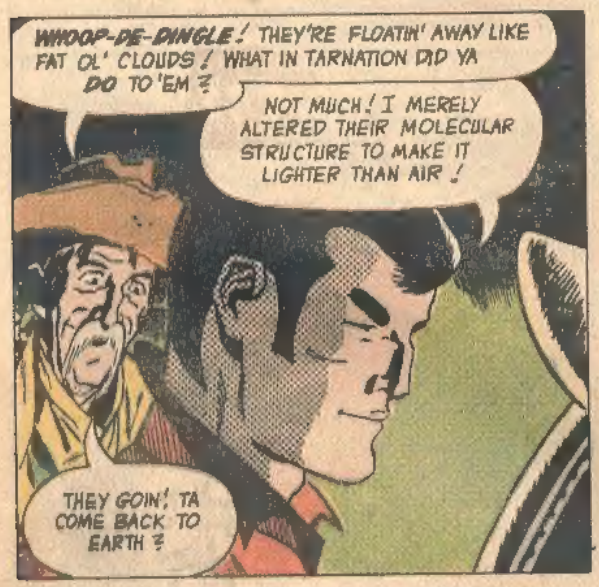
BUT AS THE BANDIT SQUEEZES HIS TRIGGER...
BEWARE!
YEOW! RECKON AS A HOG TIER, I'M A MIGHTY FINE MINER! DIDN'T FIGGER THEY'D GIT LOOSE SO SOON!
CORSES! I MEES!

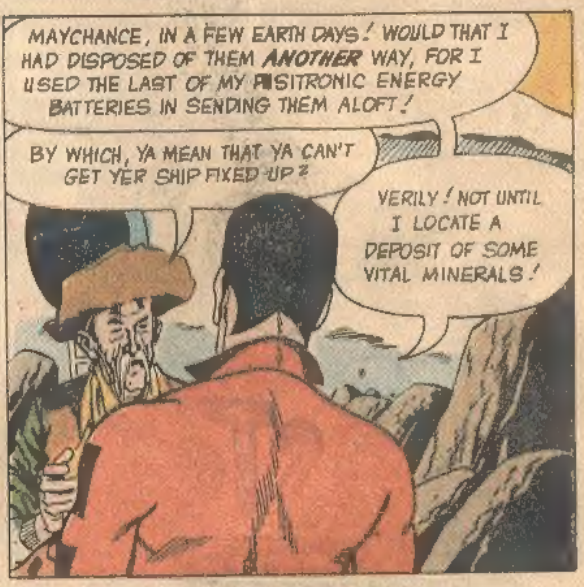

COME! WE SHALL SETTLE WITH THEM ONCE AND FOR ALL!
YOU GOT SOME KINDA GUN HERE? GONNA KILL 'EM?
NO! THEY DESERVE WORSE!


A FEW ADJUSTMENTS TO THE MOLECULE ALTERATION RAY...

I...I'M FALLING UP INTO THE SKY!
HALLLP!
I DIDN'T PLAN TO GO TO HEAVEN THEES SOON!
ZZZZ
ZZZ
ZZ
Z


EES THE WORS' NIGHTMARE I EVER HAVE!
EES NO NIGHTMARE ...EES HAPPENING!
EEF I GET DOWN AGAIN, I'M GON' BE PLENTY MAD ABOUT THEES!


WHOOP-DE-DINGLE! THEY'RE FLOATIN' AWAY LIKE FAT OL' CLOUDS! WHAT IN TARNATION DID YA DO TO 'EM?
NOT MUCH! I MERELY ALTERED THEIR MOLECULAR STRUCTURE TO MAKE IT LIGHTER THAN AIR!
THEY GOIN' TA COME BACK TO EARTH?


MAYCHANCE, IN A FEW EARTH DAYS! WOULD THAT I HAD DISPOSED OF THEM ANOTHER WAY, FOR I USED THE LAST OF MY POSITRONIC ENERGY BATTERIES IN SENDING THEM ALOFT!
BY WHICH, YA MEAN THAT YA CAN'T GET YER SHIP FIXED UP?
VERILY! NOT UNTIL I LOCATE A DEPOSIT OF SOME VITAL MINERALS!

WAL, THEN, LET'S GIT YA SOME DECENT DUDS, AND GIT A LOOKIN' FER THEM MINERALS!
AS YOU SAY, FRIEND.. AS YOU SAY!
CAN A TRAVELING SALESMAN FROM SIRIUS FIVE FIND HAPPINESS AS AN EARTHLING? WILL THE SPACE SHIP EVER WORK AGAIN? WILL THE BANDITS EVER TOUCH THE GROUND? THE ANSWERS TO THESE, AND HUNDREDS OF OTHER INCONSEQUENTIAL QUESTIONS, IN OUR NEXT ISSUE! (WE HOPE...)
THE END

BUY CHARLTON COMICS!
(we need the money!)